



Bryan Moore of Arkham Studios: SCAM ARTIST not SATANIST

(Special thanks to the "Anon" who sent me down this proverbial "Rabbit Hole to Hell!")

There is an UPDATE to this article at the bottom as of Sun, 7th of Dec.

Boyo, this was an interesting one. Not only did I find myself researching a BIG TIME scam artist, who's talents COULD have given him a legitimate leg up in the world had he not ripped people off all over it, but I found myself researching none other than The Church of Satan.

But "Moore" on that later.....for now:

Meet the latest SCAM ARTIST to grace this blog:



Bryan began his career as a sculptor in 1984, working on many horror films such as the *Nightmare on Elm Street* franchise, *Jumanji*, and *Mortal Kombat*, all the way to current offerings such as *Underworld 2*, *The Cave* and *Backwater*. TV work includes *Tales from the Darkside*, *Monsters*, *Love and Curses* and the new Sci-Fi Channel special *Monsters of the UFO*

When much of the FX work shifted over to computer, Bryan gravitated into the blossoming toy and collectible market, spending five years as a staff sculptor at Mattel Toys working on such classic brands as Barbie, Hot Wheels, and Disney product.

In 2002, Bryan opened Arkham Studios, to provide the toy industry with high quality prototyping and final product. Current clients include Universal, Mattel, BMW, Jakks Pacific and Burger King.

Bryan Moore is the owner of Arkham Studios, which (*supposedly*) "is dedicated to bringing you some of the best representations of your cult personalities including H.P. Lovecraft, Edgar Allan Poe, Anton LaVey, Cthulhu, and others." Has quite the back ground, and I was actually able to confirm a few of the claims above, leading me to believe that all of these things (all of which are pre-fraud) are probably true.

That said, it makes it all more of a shame that Bryan Moore decided to turn scammer. He does have talent, and was even a part of getting Schlitzie Surtees, a headstone. *So what happened, and how does the Church of Satan fit in?*

I think I have a VERY good picture of what happened to cause this change, one that was at first based on hearsay, but one that more or less seems to be substantiated by evidence.

DIVORCE.

Between the years 2007 and 2009 I can't find any complaints about Moore, or his business, and his ex wife is named in his business as a partner, seemingly throughout this time. She also has a profile on his Arkham Studios site, which according to the WayBackMachine was there up until 2010.... when the complaints began.

From this point in time, it seems Moore relocated from California to Sac City Iowa , and the claims of being ripped off began to pile up.

How he scams people:

If there is one thing that Ol' Bry is other than a ripoff artist, it's a manipulative smooth talker. He's articulate, and passive-aggressive, and quick with the compliments, throwing "buddy" and "pal" around like the cheesiest of American TV shows from the 50's.

He accepts payments for his products via PayPal, despite constantly complaining of being "busy" and being open about the fact he's always "backed up" etc, etc. Most honest business people would stop taking orders until they filled the ones that they were late (sometimes by a stretch of years) on. Not Bryan Moore! No siree buuddy ol' pal!

People who have paid good money, sometimes in excess of \$300 or more (especially with shipping) wait patiently while they eyeball updates from Moore's facebook account. Usually images of him posing awkwardly in the supposed midst of some step of production, or a line of in progress, or finished statues, and even videos on YouTube.

As time passes, his victims become a bit antsy. They write to him. He "just be paitent old pal! (Insert compliment) I sure am busy golly gee!" Perhaps they write a bit more, but still no shipping conformation comes, no tracking numbers, or anything. Emails, if they go answered, are more of the same excuses.

Eventually, the time to dispute with PayPal ends, and Bryan cuts communications, OR continues to placate his victims with snake tongued emails.

Complaint

I placed an order for one of the busts Arkham Studios advertised and paid \$280 (\$250 + \$30 shipping) for it on March 15th 2012 using Paypal. I chose to be patient and did not dispute the charge with Paypal costing me the ability to dispute the charge with Paypal. I have written Arkham in on five different occasions in the past year. Every time, ***** assures me he is going to get to it soon. It is now April 5th. I have watched him design, advertise, and sell to the general public two different new series of busts as well as brag about other projects he has been doing since I placed my order. This has been a disheartening experience. I am amazed that a business that has an "A" rating could be so dishonest.

Desired Settlement

I would like a refund of my \$280 that I remitted to Arkham Studios on March 15, 2012 via Paypal.

[Delivery Issues](#) | [Read Complaint Details](#)

Complaint

On August 30st, 2011, I ordered an HP Lovecraft sculpture from Arkham Studios for \$220.00, including shipping. When it did not arrive after two months, I contacted the owner, ***** via e-mail. He responded saying he would get to mine "next," but still did not send the order. I contacted him several more times for well over a year; each time he replied saying he would send my order "soon." In the last e-mail I sent him, I asked for a refund, but he did not respond to that request. The last contact I've had from him was a FaceBook comment on January 5, 2013 when he promised to send my order "next week." As of today, March 27, 2013, I still have not received my order nor been given a refund.

Desired Settlement

I would prefer a full refund of \$220.00 credited to my PayPal account. If that is not possible, I would settle for receiving the HP Lovecraft sculpture I originally ordered.

There have been people waiting for half a decade to get their items!



Kim Rice

Commented Today @11:37am



Mr. Moore owes me four different statues for which I paid approximately \$1,000 and for which I've been waiting approximately between five to three years. I've been assured by Mr. Moore that "they're going out with the next shipment" on numerous occasions (the last time was in February of this year), but nothing ever arrives and it's been continuous radio silence from Arkham Studios ever since.

The worst part is that despite what are some pretty easy to find complaints about his theft and business, dating back a good four years, Moore has managed to successfully complete and overfund TWO Kickstarter campaigns, that even garnered some celebrity endorsement from Neil Gaiman, and Guillermo del Toro, the first, a bust of HP Lovecraft in a Providence library, and secondly a Poe bust in Boston.... though the latter has FINALLY garnered a bit of controversy. More on that later.

Just looking up his [business ranking](#) with the BBB gives you a pretty clear indication that he should be avoided:

THIS BUSINESS IS NOT BBB ACCREDITED

Arkham Studios

7746 Clybourn Ave, Sun Valley, CA 91352-4625

<http://www.arkham-studios.com>



On a scale of A+ to F

Reason for Rating

[BBB Ratings System Overview](#)

Here is the timeline as I have been able to find it.

2002:

Arkham Studios is started by Moore and his then wife, using the severance pay from Mattel where Moore was allegedly "laid off because of '9-11'." (This is according to an interview on the cached website, with Moore's now ex-wife, who was listed as an "administrator". So, no I have no clue what "*because of 9-11*" means.)

I can find absolutely zero complaints about this business until....

2010:

The VERY FIRST [Yelp review](#) of Arkham Studios is a one star complaint about being ripped off.



[First to Review](#)

These folks are thieves. I ordered a Cthulhu statue from them in November of last year for \$135 and after initially telling me it would take "approximately four weeks" to "hand craft" put me off again and again with stories of moving, disorganization and other distress and, finally, simply stopped responding to my emails. I never got what I ordered and I've never gotten my money back. Avoid doing business with the proprietors, Bryan Moore and Heather Saenz: they're irresponsible, unethical dolts!

(The listed number is also disconnected.)

To this day, there is not ONE positive review on that page. There are some deleted comments by Moore himself that were taken down by Yelp. Again, while this comment mentions Moore's former wife, at this point she probably has absolutely nothing to do with the business.

2011 Drama in the Crowley Community:

In this [thread](#), Aelister Crowley fans come forward, realizing that they have been had by this scammer.

One user of the forum "davyp93" mentions that he sent Bryan an email, with a link to the thread, and claims that Moore got back to him, and would take care of things ASAP.

Of course, he did not, as later comments confirm, which caused the forum administrator, a former SATISFIED customer of Moore's to contact him directly.

The response that administrator received is *extremely* telling:

Okay, an update for site members and one that I find very disappointing.

Mr Moore sent me a Private Message asking me to remove this thread. He has refused my request to quote his Messages here so I'll have to paraphrase... He stated that he had suffered some personal and business problems and was doing his best to ensure that all outstanding orders were being resolved. He complained that some disgruntled customers were rude to him and that some were sending emails to him several times a day.

On 27 August I made the following suggestion:

*I therefore make this proposal: you contact users **aimee** and **Mazus** by Private Message and explain to them how you intend to resolve their concerns. If I get Private Messages from both of them confirming that they are happy with progress then I will temporarily remove the thread. If they subsequently report that they've been let down by you then I will make it active again."*

Despite initially describing this as "a very fair solution", later in his same reply he indicated that he "wasn't inclined" to contact people that *might* have sent him threatening emails in the past.

I sent him a chase-up message and he replied today to confirm that he wouldn't be writing to the two users mentioned because he didn't know their real names. I replied accordingly: "You've not even sent Private Messages through the site to those that have expressed concerns? That's disappointing..." I added that I would therefore not delete the thread. **BryanMoore's** account remains live so that he can communicate with members in the future, should he feel so 'inclined'.

I would have hoped for far better from someone whose product was targeted at members of this website. It's at times like this that I'm pleased that the site never has and never will accept advertising.

 Tweet 0

 Logge

Paul Feazey
Owner & Editor
LASH TAL.COM

Deconstructing The Lovecraft Bust Project:



This one makes me angrier than I think I can articulate, and here is why.

The name that you would think this project was "Lovecraft Fans for Childhood Literacy" by looking at the page, and the insinuation, is incredibly misleading.

I shall repeat: CHILDHOOD LITERACY.

Why the emphasis on those two words you ask? Because Moore seemed to use them to garner a good amount of both attention AND donations “for the project”, while making a PITTANCE of a donation to the actual literacy fund for the Children in the end.

The Numbers:

Original Kickstarter Goal: **\$30,000**

Now you would think that because this was the original goal, that all of the supplies, casting, prints, t-shirts, and premium production and shipping, would be included in this price. Not to mention, the bottom of the Lovecraft poster for the project, is littered with sponsors, meaning these entities provided some sort of financial or tangible support to this project, further lightening one would presume, the cost burden.



The END total: **\$58,023**

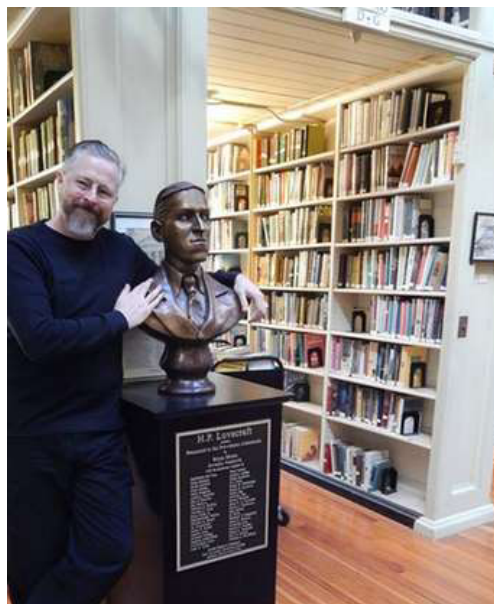
Almost DOUBLE the original request. While Moore “Unlocked” other premiums as the donations increased, these still should have left Moore...er.... the project, with a substantial financial pay out.

Donation to “The Children”: \$1,000

Yes, you read that right. After an almost \$60,000 funding, “the Children” received a measly pittance of just \$1,000.

Even the comments in the kickstarter campaign are full of complaints of people not getting their premiums, with only a couple of people reporting back that they received theirs.

\$60,000 for this.



I decided to google a couple of life sized bronze statues for sale in the United states. This is how the prices for much larger pieces compare to Moore's \$60,000 bust.



Real Bronze art nouveau statue Nymph

Item condition: --

Time left: 12d 05h 12/15, 8:34PM

Price: **US \$3,899.99**

Buy It Now

Add to cart

Best Offer:

1 watching

Make Offer

[Add to watch list](#)

[Add to collection](#)



Jumbo Life size Bronze Whitetail Deer

Item condition: **New**

Time left: 20d 18h 12/24, 9:00AM

Price: **US \$4,900.00**

Buy It Now

Add to cart

2 watching

[Add to watch list](#)

[Add to collection](#)

("The Children" might have liked the deer better, but thats just me.)

Now I am not an artist, and I have never made a bronze sculpture, but when LIFE SIZED statues are selling for \$5,000 you would think that to produce them would be much cheaper than the selling price, so that both artist and foundry can make a profit.

Putting that all into perspective, along with the scant donation, "to the kids" and sponsorship.... it's pretty safe to assume Moore walked away with a heavy purse.

2013 "Dirty Mike" Kalb joins Arkham Studios, nothing changes:



Arkham Studios

6 May 2013

Good ol' Mike Kalb will be in the Arkham Studios workshop soon! Orders will go out a lot faster now!!!!!!

Thanks again to ALL for your amazing patience!!!!

Whoohoooo!

During this time Moore started really pushing this guy "Dirty Mike" posting prominent photos of Mike in various stages of "working", and even going so far as to show him in the post office. Probably to placate a bunch of the irritated people that he has ripped off, considering the comment section of the photo is nothing more than "I hope that is mine in there" with only ONE person stating they received their order.



That said, nearly EVERY SINGLE PHOTO Moore has posted on the Arkham Studios page has at least ONE comment relating to a hope that an order will arrive, or that one item the lines of statues in various stages of completion, belongs to them.

You might wonder why there are not more accusatory posts, or those that speak of his ripping people off... well he DELETES THEM of course! He even says as much in a roundabout way in his October 2013 update, featuring "Dirty Mike" with a pair of crutches.

Hope all are well and getting ready to enjoy Halloween!
If you've written about your order status, I'll get back to each and every one of you just as soon as I can, but I'm slammed right now. Not an excuse, just incredibly busy trying to finish out these orders and am spending more time in the workshop rather than online.

My thanks, as always, for your patience and your continued support! Please don't inquire on this post about your order as this is simply an update and they will be deleted. Inquiries should be made privately. You can wish ol' Dirty Mike well, though!

Best to all,

Bry

"Inquiries should be made privately".... of course they should. So they don't dilute the mystique of BULLSHITE that he has built around him, and can be promptly ignored.

Regardless it seems that the addition of "Dirty Mike" made little to no impact on the legions of people STILL waiting to get what they paid for.

Of course it is just supposition about what Mike knows about Bryan, but chances are he's another one of the people suckered in by Moore's smooth-talk.

2014 Poe Bust Boston Public Library:



With the success of his other bust project, it would be foolish of anyone to not use the same tactic again! Enter the Poe Bust Project, AGAIN for a library, and again intimating some more bullshit about Children and Literacy.

AGAIN this project was over funded.

THANKFULLY it was only over funded by \$5,000 this time.

I can't find a reference to how much was actually donated to the literacy fund that Moore "Unlocked" seemingly by offering people a chance to be "immortalized" by having their name put on a plaque....

SIX NAMES ADDED TO "FOREVERMORE" REWARD LEVEL!!!!

You asked for it and we listened! There is now room for six more names on the bronze plaque and ONLY SIX!!!!!! A lot of you have asked if there was any way we could make room for YOU and here's your chance! We REALLY want to make a donation to "READ BOSTON" which is the children's literacy program in Massachusetts and this is the best way that we can do it.

Be immortalized forever in the Boston Public Library by showing folks that not only did YOU help to put a bronze bust of Poe in the library, but you also helped the kids by investing in their future!

You would think because this is a publicly funded project in a library, that the donation "to the children" would have been included in the original \$30,000. Nope.

10/22/14 Article Exposing Moore:

[This article](#), written by Nick De Luca finally broke the surface on the many scams of Bryan Moore.... and the fact that the Boston Public Library does not seem to care.

At all.

In this article De Luca mentions a negative comment that appeared in a previous promotional article about the project, and how a refusal to remove that comment, lead Bryan to shut down communications:

"BostInno was able to get in touch with Moore back in May to gauge his inspiration for the project and how early developments were faring. He was willing to talk and was amiable in his email correspondence. Things took a turn when he noticed a public comment in our article announcing the project that referred to him as both a con artist and a Satanist.

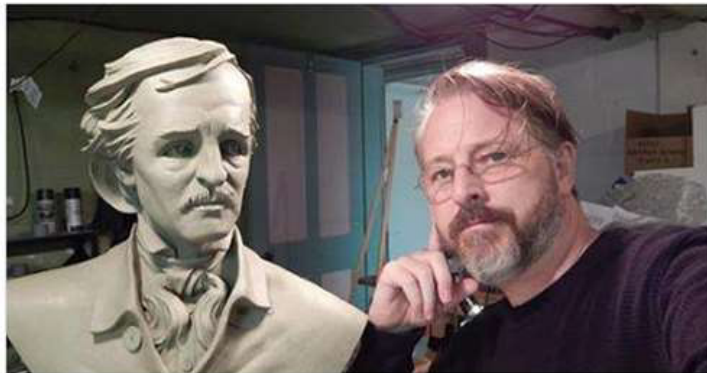
Moore requested we remove the comment. We didn't. It's been radio silence with him ever since."

Again, Bryan, instead of truly addressing the allegations against him, requests censorship, and when that is not granted, he ignores the situation altogether.

The facebook page "[Poe Boston](#)" went forward and reposted the allegations against Moore:



Complaints about sculptor BRYAN MOORE refuse to go away. Two new ones were posted at the (Oct. 22) BostInno article below just today (Dec. 2). The first reads as follows: "Mr. Moore owes me four different statues for which I paid approximat... [See More](#)



The Sculptor of the BPL's Edgar Allan Poe Bust Has Left a Trail of Dissatisfied Clients

Only to be later be BANNED from what was apparently a larger group of Poe fans working for the Poe/Boston connection, for speaking out against Moore, booted by those who have a clear INTEREST in keeping the information about Moore quiet.



POE BOSTON is proud to announce that our Facebook page has been BANNED from the rival Facebook pages of three of our erstwhile allies in the effort to promote the legacy of EDGAR ALLAN POE via social media.

Thank you to MARK REDFIELD, publisher of the Facebook page POE FOREVERMORE, to his sponsor DAN BOUJOUAN, publisher of the Facebook page THE MACABRE EDGAR ALLAN POE, and to JOHN LA FLEUR, publisher of the Facebook page of the EDGAR ALLAN POE FOUNDATION OF BOSTON for affording us this distinction.

While all three gentlemen have declined to comment on their motivations, the banishment is the apparent result of displeasure with Poe Boston for having shed light on the documented history of consumer complaints -- including an "F" rating from the Better Business Bureau -- concerning the business activities of the Iowa-based sculptor of occult figures, and self-proclaimed "Reverend" in the Church of Satan, BRYAN MOORE.

Since June 1st of last year, Moore has raised over \$93,000 on Kickstarter to sculpt a bust of H.P. LOVECRAFT for the Providence Athenaeum and one of POE for the Boston Public Library, a project in which all three Facebook censoring organizations have a vested interest.

It is believed that both cultural institutions (the Athenaeum and the Library) were unaware of any cause for concern about Moore's bona fides until they were drawn into question in a Boston online newspaper report* on October 22nd -- at which point it was decided that, of course, it mustn't be discussed any further.

"Like" it or not, however, it will be at Poe Boston. (DC)

Oddly enough, despite the fact that the bust is brand-new, the Boston Library has decided to put it into storage until 2016, stating that it will be placed in an area currently under

construction.

The attitude of the Boston Public Library seems to be one of indifference and uncaring about the whole situation. No one wants to make a public statement, and no one wants to address the situation currently.

The Church of Satan Connection:

I suppose that my next prudent move is to actually discuss what The Church of Satan is, and is NOT, because it is not only brought up as a part of the Bryan Moore story, but it is NOT a collection of devil worshipping, bible burning, animal killing, baby sacrificers.

It's actually a Atheist organization that optionally incorporates Satanic ritual (which is probably not what you are thinking either) uses the avatar of "Satan" to represent the philosophy. It promotes the individual, champions personal freedom, intellectual and artistic pursuit, responsibility, compassion for animals and children, and existing peacefully and in a law-abiding fashion, that is 100% contradictory to the typical media stereotype of "Satanist", which was not even defined as a religion until the founder, Anton LaVey, did so.

Because it was defined by Anton LaVey, all the way back in the 1960's, any other "variations" "branches" or "segments" claiming to be "Satanism", are not only more or less unoriginal plagiarizers, that steal the aesthetics of a "dark" religion, and "shock value" of the name "Satan", but are, by their nature, not "Satanist Organizations".

Readers of Ayn Rand will recognize some of her philosophies mirrored in the religion.

Surprised? I certainly am.

The truth:

Bryan Moore WAS a Reverend in the Church of Satan. The Church of Satan bestows "titles" that reflect the life accomplishments of members, and previous to him being a lying thief, he had some accomplishments under his belt, especially within the Church itself.

Before he turned scam artist, he and his wife headed a large, public ritual in California on 6/6/06, an anniversary of the founding of the church, and served as a public representative. He has also appeared on a couple of television segments representing the Church of Satan.

He has since been kicked out, his title and membership revoked.

I can guess why.

MOORE SCAMMERY AHEAD??

There is rumour that Bryan Moore is already planning yet ANOTHER kickstarter venture.... this time for Bram Stoker in Philadelphia PA.

Update 6:30am: quite literally as I was about to post this article, I noticed this on Moore's facebook page:



Let's spread the word about this guy, mates.

Bryan Moore of Arkham Studios, Sac City Iowa, DOES NOT deserve to profit off of the dollars of good people, when he has already left so many in his wake of lies and scams.

UPDATE 11:30am Sun, 7th, Dec:

The Arkham studios Facebook has been removed. I guess our 'ol buddy Bry knows about the spreading bushfire. Wether people were finally starting to ask questions, or Bryan Moore is planning on a re-brand, as many scammers do is unclear. The removal of the page seems to fit in with his M.O. of avoid, avoid, avoid though.

I also did a bit of digging, and found that he has also deleted/hidden his Bram Stoker Bust page(s?) on Facebook as well. Here is the Cache while it lasts, and one of his posts:



Yes, "Gang", by all means, "Stay Tuned".

#bospoli #fraud #poebust #scammer #bryanmoore #boston public library #satanism
#bram stoker #hp lovecraft #crowley #poe boston #neil gaiman #guillermo del toro #bullshizer
#graham humphreys #arkham-studios #hplovecraftbronzebustproject #dirty mike

13 notes Dec 4th, 2014



 maleficentcerebralfilth reblogged this from churchofstupid

 hellofallhells reblogged this from churchofstupid

 gedwintaylor reblogged this from churchofstupid

 gedwintaylor likes this

 fetal-fungus-juicebox reblogged this from churchofstupid

 sexy-spock likes this

 bumchicken likes this

 megkipz likes this

 rleuthold likes this

 churchofstupid reblogged this from bullshizer and added:
Former CoS reverend and owner/operator of Arkham Studios finally gets properly put
on blast over his extensive history...

 abeeji reblogged this from bullshizer and added:
infuriating.

 erikcieslewicz likes this

 justagirlwithacurl said: Excellent work!

 justagirlwithacurl likes this

 helenatakespics likes this

 bullshizer posted this

